

New Hope Audubon Society Newsletter

Vol 38 No 4 Sept/Oct 2013

P.O. Box 2693, Chapel Hill, NC 27515
<http://www.newhopeaudubon.org>



Year in Review by Norm Budnitz

Welcome to the 2013/2014 year of New Hope Audubon. Our Board of Directors recently held its annual planning meeting, in which we discussed possible activities we might get involved in for the coming year. Being a modest group, we sometimes underestimate just how much we actually accomplish. So at the beginning of our meeting this year, we decided to make a list of all the things we had done last year—big or small, time-consuming or quick, brand new or recurring annually.

Our chapter serves Chatham, Durham, and Orange counties. Below, you can see just how much we have accomplished. The counties where the activities took place or where they had their major impact are given in parentheses. Some activities could be listed in several categories, but I chose to list each one once, rather than pad the list. As long as this list is, I'm sure we left out some things. And if you have suggestions for things we might work on in the future, you can contact us via our website at: <http://www.newhopeaudubon.org>.

- Projects we worked on and/or supported financially
 - Piedmont Barn Owl Initiative (Chatham, Durham, Orange)
 - Duke School Middle School birdhouse project at Cornwallis Park (Durham)
- Outreach
 - Eno River Festival (Durham, Orange)
 - Bird house competition in Raleigh (Wake)
 - Migratory Bird Day Eno River State Park (Orange)

Eagle Count



by Steve Mc Murray

The NHAS Quarterly Bald Eagle count took place on Sunday, July 14, 2013, from 7 to 8:30 am. It was almost a perfect morning with temperatures in the low 70s with great visibility. Lake was a bit on the high side, about three feet above normal. Seven sites around the lake were monitored with a total of 18 volunteers! Each site saw at least one eagle with a total count of 20 eagles, 18 adult and 2 immature eagles. Next count is on Sunday October 20th from 7 – 8:30 am. Still looking for more volunteers! You can come out to assist me or take on a vacant site. This is a great way to start out a Sunday morning. Email if you have any questions at steve.mcmurray@ncparks.gov.



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- Special field trips
 - Field trip to eastern North Carolina (Chatham, Durham, Orange)
 - Howell Woods in Johnston County (Chatham, Durham, Orange)
 - Horton Grove Nature Preserve (Chatham, Durham, Orange)
 - Carolina North, with Friends of Bolin Creek (Orange)
- Education
 - Boy Scout merit badge day (Chatham)
 - Three Cub Scout sessions (Durham, Orange)
 - Piedmont Community College birding class (Chatham)
 - Nicholas School for the Environment, Duke University, summer program for high school students (Durham)
- Fundraising Chatham, Durham, Orange
 - Bird seed sale (Chatham, Durham, Orange)
 - Wildathon (Chatham, Durham, Orange)
 - Bird house sales (Chatham, Durham, Orange)
 - Collaborative Funding (Important Bird Areas and NC Audubon)
- Advocacy
 - Proposed wetlands construction project at Duke University Diet and Fitness Center site (Durham)
 - Durham Watershed exploration committee (Durham)
 - New Hope Creek Advisory Committee (Durham, Orange)
 - Triangle Land Conservancy (Chatham, Durham, Orange)
- Presentations
 - Carol Woods Retirement Community (Orange)
 - Carolina Meadows (Orange)
 - Chapel Hill Bird Club (Chatham, Durham, Orange)
 - Central Orange Senior Center (Orange)
- Service
 - Wildlife Observation Platform site—trail maintenance, trash pick-up, informational kiosk, Eastern Screech-Owl nest box (Orange)
 - Website (Chatham, Durham, Orange)

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- Eagle Scout projects (Chatham)
- Recurring Programs
 - Stream Watch—76 site visits! (Orange)
 - Membership meetings (Chatham, Durham, Orange)
 - Monthly field trips/bird walks (Chatham, Durham, Orange)
 - Quarterly Bald Eagle counts (Chatham, Orange)
 - Mini Breeding Bird Surveys (Chatham, Durham, Orange)
 - Christmas and spring bird counts (Chatham)
 - On-line newsletter (Chatham, Durham, Orange)
 - Participation in NC Audubon Chapter Day meeting ((Chatham, Durham, Orange)
 - Participation in NC Audubon state meeting (Chatham, Durham, Orange)

Would You Like to Volunteer?

If you might be interested in volunteering with us on our projects, activities, fund-raising, or anything else we do, we have a survey form for you to fill out that will inform us of your interests, special talents, contact information, etc. To go to our on-line survey, follow this link: <http://goo.gl/w7Z7Zi>.

Do good works, meet people, have fun. We want to hear from you.



NHAS Membership Meeting Speakers for 2013 – 2014

Our membership meetings are held in the Visitor Education Center at the North Carolina Botanical Garden, 100 Old Mason Farm Road, Chapel Hill, on the first Thursday of every month (except June, July, and August). Everyone, including non-members, is welcome! See you at a meeting soon!

Date / Time	Speaker	Topic
September 5, 2013 6:30pm	Members Pot Luck	10-12 best photos/ slides
October 3, 2013 7:00pm	Scott Winton, Duke University	Mattamuskeet Waterfowl & Climate Change
November 7, 2013 7:00pm	Natalie Ocampo-Penuela, Duke University	Birds of Colombia
December 5, 2013 7:00pm	Paul Taillie, UNC	Fire and Regional Bird Diversity
January 9, 2014 7:00pm (2 nd Thursday of month)	Norm Budnitz, NHAS	Birding Bhutan in the Himalayas
February 6, 2014 7:00pm	Jeff Phippen, Duke University	Butterflies of North Carolina
March 6, 2014 7:00pm	Ed Corey, NC State Parks	Dragonflies of North Carolina
April 3, 2014 7:00pm	Chris Hakkenberg, UNC	Tracking Forest Dynamics from Space
May 1, 2014 7:00pm	Mark Kosiewski, NHAS	NHAS Barn Owl Initiative



Saturday, August 31, **StreamWatch** with John Kent, 8:00am

Thursday, September 5, **Membership Meeting**, NC Botanical Gardens, 6:30pm,
Potluck Dinner

Thursday, October 3, **Membership Meeting**, NC Botanical Gardens, 7:00pm. Scott Winton,
Duke University, "Mattamuskeet Waterfowl and Climate Change."

Saturday October 5, **Stream Watch** with John Kent, 9:00am

Sunday, October 20, **Eagle Count** at Jordan Lake, Steve McMurray, Coordinator

As you may already know, New Hope Audubon conducts a bird seed sale every year in conjunction with the Wild Bird Center, Eastgate Shopping Center in Chapel Hill. This is one of our important fund raisers to assist in supporting projects that promote the conservation and enjoyment of birds and wildlife—for example, our Piedmont Barn Owl Initiative and trail building at our Wildlife Observation Platform site at Jordan Lake. We will repeat the sale this year with a pick up date on Saturday, November 2, 2013. Paper order forms are being sent to members in our annual mailing and online order forms are available at our web site: <http://www.newhopeaudubon.org/birdseedsale2013.html>

We need your help in getting the word out about the bird seed sale. Here are ways you can help:

- We are hoping to use neighborhood listservs this year to announce the sale. If your neighborhood has a listserv and you would be willing to post an announcement for us, please contact Mary George at 919-929-5928 or mcgeorge44@gmail.com to receive copy for the announcement as well as an order form to post;
- Personally tell your friends, neighbors and co-workers about the bird seed sale and encourage them to purchase their winter supply of bird seed through NHAS....make sure they have an order form;
- And, of course, be sure to place your own order!

Thank you.

Mary George, Bird Seed Sale Coordinator (humbly following in the footsteps of Judy Murray who so ably coordinated this sale for many years)



New Hope Audubon Officers for 2013-2014

President	Norm Budnitz
Vice President	Robert “Bo” Howes
Secretary	Pat Reid
Treasurer	Jill Paul
Director	John Kent
Director	Mark Kosiewski
Director	Robin Moran

Committee Chairs and Special Projects

Bird Seed Sale	Mary George
Christmas & Spring Bird Counts	Norm Budnitz
Conservation Chair	Mark Kosiewski
Eagle Count	Steve McMurray
Education Chair	vacant
Hospitality Co-Chairs	Mary George
Important Bird Area, Eno River	Tom Driscoll
Important Bird Area, Jordan Lake ...	Bo Howes
Membership Chair	Jim George
Newsletter Editor	Pat Reid
Program Chair	Mark Kosiewski
Publicity Chair	Tom Driscoll
Stream Watch	John Kent
Webmaster	Norm Budnitz
Wildathon Chair	vacant
Wildlife Observation Platform	Bo Howes